

## RES14-031

Wilmington, Delaware  
July 10, 2014

#3960

**Sponsors:**

**Council  
President  
Gregory**

**Council  
Member  
Chukwuocha**

**Co-Sponsor:**

**Council  
Member  
Shabazz**

**WHEREAS**, providing quality, competitive public education constitutes a fundamental responsibility of government to its citizens, and many view education as a fundamental right; and

**WHEREAS**, education is funded through tax levies and constitutes a substantial portion of expenditures made by governmental entities; and

**WHEREAS**, advances in practice and technology have offered new potential to enhance teaching and learning processes for educators and pupils; and

**WHEREAS**, the state-centric funding system for schools in the State of Delaware has imposed restrictions upon educators and school administrators in their efforts to offer students additional resources and enhance curricula; and

**WHEREAS**, Delaware Governor Jack Markell, has stated, "we're currently trying to build world class schools with a funding system built in the 1940s, which gives school leaders little discretion in how they use their resources"; and

**WHEREAS**, leaders in the State recognize the challenges associated with funding structures, and acknowledge the benefits that could come from a revised funding structure that would allow greater levels of flexibility to school districts; and

**WHEREAS**, in its signed budget for Fiscal Year 2015, the State Department of Education is authorized to establish a working group to develop a pilot plan for education funding flexibility, which will be put forward for consideration for implementation during the Fiscal Year 2016 budget planning process.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON**, that the Council supports the State's efforts to support a Department of Education working group to propose an education funding flexibility plan at the end of the calendar year, and urges the State and this working group to confer with the

Education, Youth and Families Committee of the City Council, as well as others within the City of Wilmington executive and legislative branches who are knowledgeable in the area of urban education, as it prepares its plan and issues its proposals.

Passed by City Council,  
July 10, 2014

Attest: Mariabel Seijo  
City Clerk

Approved as to form this 9<sup>th</sup>  
day of July, 2014.

Danyel Dutton  
Assistant City Solicitor